

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 7, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 21

Introduced by Assembly Member Portantino

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Arambula, Bass, Beall, Carter, Davis, DeSaulnier, Dymally, Galgiani, Horton, Huffman, Ma, Price, Richardson, Ruskin, and Swanson)

(Coauthors: Senators Ridley-Thomas and Vincent)

February 14, 2007

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 21—Relative to the University of California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 21, as amended, Portantino. University of California: academic partnerships.

Existing law establishes the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. The regents operate campuses of the University of California at Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz.

This measure would strongly urge the regents to establish a student exchange program, or another form of academic partnership, between one or more campuses of the University of California and one or more of the institutions that are classified as Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, The campuses of the University of California are
2 justly regarded as comprising the premier public institution of
3 higher education in the world; and

4 WHEREAS, Public and private institutions of higher education
5 throughout the world are cognizant of the prestige of the University
6 of California, and may wish to participate in student exchange
7 programs, and other forms of academic partnership, with the
8 University of California; and

9 WHEREAS, Through academic partnerships, students of the
10 various campuses of the University of California may greatly
11 benefit from opportunities to study at other institutions, and to
12 have fellowship with students from these other institutions who
13 are able to visit, or take coursework at, the University of California;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Among the many distinguished institutions of
16 higher education that would have an interest in student exchange
17 programs, or other forms of academic partnership, are the 103
18 institutions classified, under the federal Higher Education Act of
19 1964, as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs),
20 and located in 21 states and the District of Columbia; and

21 WHEREAS, The charter of Howard University, an HBCU
22 located in Washington, D.C., was enacted by Congress and
23 approved by President Andrew Johnson in 1867, and the numerous
24 distinguished alumni of Howard include the late U.S. Supreme
25 Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and Nobel ~~laureates~~ *laureate*
26 Toni Morrison, and famous members of Howard's faculty include
27 Dr. Charles Drew and another Nobel laureate, Ralph Bunche, who,
28 coincidentally, is an alumnus of UCLA; and

29 WHEREAS, Hampton University, an HBCU located in
30 Hampton, Virginia, was founded in 1868, and is the alma mater
31 of the renowned educator, Booker T. Washington, who later
32 became the founder of another distinguished HBCU--Tuskegee
33 University, which is located in Tuskegee, Alabama; and

34 WHEREAS, Fisk University, an HBCU located in Nashville,
35 Tennessee, was founded in 1866, includes W.E.B. DuBois among
36 its many famous alumni, and is internationally renowned for its
37 music program--specifically for its legendary vocal ensemble, the
38 Fisk Jubilee Singers; and

39 WHEREAS, Morehouse College, a men's institution founded
40 in 1867, which includes Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. among its

1 alumni, and Spelman College, a women's institution founded in
2 1881, which includes Marian Wright Edelman among its alumnae,
3 are both HBCUs located in Atlanta, Georgia; and

4 WHEREAS, All of the HBCUs referenced above, as well as the
5 nearly 100 other HBCUs, are of more than simply historic ~~interest~~:
6 *interest*; they are vibrant centers of contemporary scholarship that
7 would be attractive places for students and faculty of the University
8 of California to visit and do important academic work; and

9 WHEREAS, A student exchange program, or other form of
10 academic partnership, between a campus or campuses of the
11 University of California and one or more of the institutions
12 comprising the Historically Black Colleges and Universities could
13 be very beneficial to all of the students and faculty members who
14 choose to participate; and

15 WHEREAS, A partnership exists between Harvard Law School
16 and the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of
17 Law, in which law students of the University of California attend
18 Harvard Law School for one of three years, and between Columbia
19 Business School and the University of California, Berkeley, Haas
20 School of Business, which jointly administer the
21 Berkeley-Columbia Executive MBA Program; now, therefore, be
22 it

23 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
24 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature strongly urges the Regents
25 of the University of California to establish a student exchange
26 program, or another form of academic partnership, such as a joint
27 degree program in which students spend up to two years of a
28 four-year degree program at the host campus, between one or more
29 campuses of the University of California and one or more of the
30 institutions that are classified as Historically Black Colleges and
31 Universities; and be it further

32 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy
33 of this resolution to each member of the Regents of the University
34 of California and to appropriate presidents of the Historically Black
35 Colleges and Universities.